

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
NEW ENGLAND ZOÖLOGICAL CLUB

ANOTHER NEW BAHAMAN IGUANA

BY THOMAS BARBOUR

IN 1916 Dr. Noble and I revised the *Cycluras* (Bull. M. C. Z., 60, Feb., 1916, pp. 139-164, pls. 1-15). Since that time Mr. K. P. Schmidt has added a new form, *Cyclura cristata*, from White Cay near Watlings Island. Now it is possible to add another. Maynard told me, when he returned from the Bahamas with the type of *C. inornata*, that there were iguanas on Bitter Guana Cay, and he was so quoted in the revision (l. c., p. 141). Still no one knew what this species might be, albeit we surmised that surely it was an undescribed form. Last summer the Natural History Museum of Denver, Colorado, sent an expedition to the Bahama Islands, under the leadership of Mr. Alfred M. Bailey. The chance notice of a photograph showing the party with some captured iguanas on Bitter Guana Cay, impelled me to write to the Museum, and in prompt and most courteous response a series of six salted skins reached Cambridge in a few days. A glance showed at once that this was a new species allied to, but very distinct from, *Cyclura inornata* Barbour and Noble. At Mr. Bailey's request I am dedicating the species to his chief, J. D. Figgins, Esq., the

Director of the Colorado Museum of Natural History in Denver. It is well worth while noting that the iguana was found abundant on the Cay, no less than nineteen being taken in an hour or so. This fact now being established, they will probably before long go the way of their allies, which have nearly all been exterminated by the meat-hungry natives.

Cyclura figginsi sp. nov.

Type, M. C. Z. no. 17,745, from Bitter Guana Cay, near Great Guana Cay, Exuma Group, Bahama Islands, collected by A. M. Bailey. Paratypes in the Colorado Museum of Natural History, Denver, and in the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Cambridge.

A large species allied to *Cyclura inornata* Barbour and Noble from U Cay, Allen's Harbor, north of Highborn Cay, Exuma Group, Bahamas, and differing conspicuously in having tiny supranasals usually separated by a small azygous scale and two pairs of praefrontals, the posterior pair being invariably enormously enlarged. In this character the species is approached by no other in the genus.

Description. — Nasals broadly in contact with the rostral and with each other. Praefrontal region covered with a pair of small supranasals, separated by a small scale, followed by two pairs of praefrontals, the posterior pair being enormously enlarged, both pairs broadly in contact on the median line of the snout. Frontal region covered with two rows of enlarged scales, either three or four in a row, and these rows separated by a series of lesser shields from a single enlarged boss which may represent the frontal scale itself and which shows a slight tendency toward becoming a 'horn'; no evident supraorbital semicircles, this region being covered with small irregular scales; frontal shield separated from the occipital, which is of about the same size, by four (five or six) series of scales larger than those on the supraorbital regions. Postnasal rather large; one large and one small canthal. The contour of the other head shield may be seen by examining carefully the figure (Plates I and II). The enlarged scales on the upper temporal and masseteric regions are characteristic and constant. Dorsal crest of low blunt spines, enlarged on the lumbar region (6 mm. \pm high) and on the base of the tail (9–10 mm. \pm high). The nuchal crest very low, and widely separated from the dorsal. Four series of scales between the limiting rows of each segment of the tail, each one slightly larger than the one anterior to it.

Color in life. — Crown of head, pale windsor blue; rostrum brownish; iris hazel with golden bars about pupil; body generally blackish, with the scales often light, tinged with ochraceous; jaws similarly tinted; gular pouch cinnamon or ochraceous red, belly the same; feet and tail fuscous, the latter slightly lighter below.

For the description, made in the field, of the iguana's coloring, I have to thank Mr. Bailey; and the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy owes both to him and to Mr. Figgins sincere gratitude for depositing the type in Cambridge.

EXPLANATION OF THE PLATES

PLATE I

Lateral aspect of the head of *Cyclura figginsi*. One and one half times natural size.

PLATE II

Dorsal aspect of the head of *Cyclura figginsi*. One and one half times natural size.